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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/469,726	12/21/1999	XIN WANG	D/99164	5313

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EXAMINER

HA, LEYNNA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2135	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/469,726

Applicant(s)

WANG, XIN

Examiner

LEYNNA T. HA

Art Unit

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-22 have been examined and is in response to the Request for Continuation Examination.

#### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 6, 2005 has been entered.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2135

**3. Claims 1-8, 10-20, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright, et al. (US 6,084,969) in view of Ellison (US 6,073,237).**

**As per claim 1:**

**Wright, et al.** disclose a method for encrypting an original document for distribution to a selected recipient chosen from a plurality of possible recipients, comprising the steps of:

generating a session key based on a random number **[col.11, lines 46-50]** privately maintained by only the owner, including the encryptor **[col.9, lines 51-52]**, of the original document; **[col.5, lines 2-4 and col.7, lines 10-11]**

encrypting the original document with the session key to create an encrypted document; **[col.5, lines 21-22 and col.7, lines 12-13]**

generating a proxy key based on a public key **[col.10, lines 26-28 and col.11, line 11]** corresponding to the selected recipient; and **[col.11, lines 65-67 and col.14, lines 35-36]**

transforming the encrypted document with a proxy key to create a transformed document, wherein no clear-text document is revealed during the transformation. **[col.12, lines 55-56 and col.14, lines 65-67]**; where Wright discloses a straight through process of the encryption and the re-encryption process throughout the transformation of the encrypted document without any interruptions or descriptions the clear-

Art Unit: 2135

text document being revealed. Therefore, no clear-text was reveal because it is inherent to not reveal any clear-text document during the transformation due to security reasons and the purpose of safeguarding the document from unintended or untrustworthy persons that does not have the proper key or information.]

It is obvious that Wright disclose the session key is maintained by “only” the owner of the original document (see Wright on col.3, line 51 and col.9, lines 51-52). However, Wright did not fully disclose the element “only” by the owner.

Ellison does fully disclose the private key is known only to the user (see Ellison on col.1, lines 20-26). Therefore, it would have been obvious of ordinary skills in the art to combine the teaching of Wright with Ellison that the private or session key is known and maintained by only the owner in order to secure the transactions of the user.

**As per claim 2: See Wright on col.14, lines 65-67;** discusses transforming the transformed document to the selected recipient.

**As per claim 3: See Wright on col.12, lines 5-1 and col.14, lines 41-42;** discusses recovering the session key from the transformed document and decrypting the transformed document with the session key to recover the original document.

**As per claim 4: See Wright on col.13, line 51;** discusses applying the private key corresponding to the selected recipient.

Art Unit: 2135

**As per claim 5: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses an encryption step is a combination of a symmetric private key encryption scheme and an asymmetric public key encryption scheme.

**As per claim 6: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses the asymmetric public key encryption scheme is based on the ElGamal encryption scheme.

**As per claim 7: See Wright on col.7, lines 3-5 and col.11, lines 10-11;** discusses the encrypted document comprises a first portion representative of the original document encrypted via the symmetric private key encryption scheme using the session key, and a second portion representative of the session key encrypted using an owner's private key according to the asymmetric public key encryption scheme **(col.7, lines 20-21).**

**As per claim 8:**

Wright discloses the original document is distributed to the selected recipient through at least one additional intermediate grantor by repeating the following steps for each additional intermediate grantor:

generating a new proxy key based on the intermediate grantor's public key; and **[col.14, lines 65-67]**

transforming the encrypted document with the new proxy key to create a transformed document customized for the intermediate grantor.

**[col.13, lines 50-51]**

Art Unit: 2135

**As per claim 10: See Wright on col.7, lines 3-5 and col.11, lines 10-11;** discusses the encrypted document comprises a first portion representative of the original document encrypted via the symmetric private-key encrypted scheme using the session key, and a second portion representative of the session key encrypted using an owner's private key according to the asymmetric public-key encryption scheme.

**As per claim 11: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses encrypted with the modified ElGamal encryption scheme.

**As per claim 12: See Wright on col., lines;** discusses generating a session key [col.11, lines 46-50], encrypting the original document [col.5, lines 21-22 and col.7, lines 12-13], generating a proxy key [col.10, lines 26-28 and col.11, line 11], transforming the encrypted document are performed by the grantor [col.12, lines 55-56 and col.14, lines 65-67]

**As per claim 13:**

**Wright, et al.** disclose a system operable to encrypt an original document for distribution to a selected recipient chosen from a plurality of possible recipients, comprising:

a session key generation system that generates a session key based on a random number [col.11, lines 46-50] privately maintained by only the owner, including the encryptor [col.9, lines 51-52], of the original document; [col.5, lines 2-4 and col.7, lines 10-11]

Art Unit: 2135

**an** encryption system that encrypts the original document with the session key to create an encrypted document; **[col.5, lines 21-22 and col.7, lines 12-13]**

a proxy key generation system that generates a proxy key based on a public key **[col.10, lines 26-28 and col.11, line 11]** corresponding to the selected recipient; and **[col.11, lines 65-67 and col.14, lines 35-36]**

a transformation system that transforms the encrypted document with a proxy key to create a transformed document, wherein no clear-text document is revealed during the transformation. **[col.12, lines 55-56 and col.14, lines 65-67;** where Wright discloses a straight through process of the encryption and the re-encryption process throughout the transformation of the encrypted document without any interruptions or descriptions the clear-text document being revealed. Therefore, no clear-text was reveal because it is inherent to not reveal any clear-text document during the transformation due to security reasons and the purpose of safeguarding the document from unintended or untrustworthy persons that does not have the proper key or information.]

It is obvious that Wright disclose the session key is maintained by “only” the owner of the original document (see Wright on col.3, line 51 and col.9, lines 51-52). However, Wright did not fully disclose the element “only” by the owner.

Ellison does fully disclose the private key is known only to the user (see Ellison on col.1, lines 20-26). Therefore, it would have been obvious



Art Unit: 2135

of ordinary skills in the art to combine the teaching of Wright with Ellison that the private or session key is known and maintained by only the owner in order to secure the transactions of the user.

**As per claim 14: See Wright on col.14, lines 65-67;** discusses transmitting system that transmits the transforming the transformed document to the selected recipient.

**As per claim 15: See Wright on col.12, lines 5-1 and col.14, lines 41-42;** discusses a recovering system that recovers the session key from the transformed document and decrypting system that decrypts the transformed document with the session key to recover the original document.

**As per claim 16: See Wright on col.13, line 51;** discusses the recovery of the session key is performed by applying the private key corresponding to the selected recipient.

**As per claim 17: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses the encryption is performed with a combination of a symmetric private key encryption scheme and an asymmetric public key encryption scheme.

**As per claim 18: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses the asymmetric public key encryption scheme is based on the ElGamal encryption scheme.

**As per claim 19: See Wright on col.7, lines 3-5 and col.11, lines 10-11;** discusses the encrypted document comprises a first portion representative of the original document encrypted via the symmetric

Art Unit: 2135

private key encryption scheme using the session key, and a second portion representative of the session key encrypted using an owner's private key according to the asymmetric public key encryption scheme **(col.7, lines 20-21)**.

**As per claim 20: See Wright col.14, lines 65-67 and col.13, lines 50-51;** discloses the original document is distributed to the selected recipient through at least one additional intermediate grantor by repeating the following steps for each additional intermediate grantor by using the proxy key generation system to generate a new proxy key based on the intermediate grantor's public key and using the transformation system to transform the encrypted document with the new proxy key to create a transformed document customized for the intermediate grantor.

**As per claim 22: See Wright on col.5, lines 45-56;** discusses encrypted with the modified ElGamal encryption scheme.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**3. Claims 9 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright, et al. (US 6,084,969) and Ellison (US 6,073,237), and in further view of Irish Times "Encryption Technology to Thwart Computer Hackers System Should Protect Security of E-Commerce" (City Edition).**

**As per claim 9:**

Wright disclose a method for encrypting an original document for distribution to a selected recipient chosen from a plurality of possible recipients comprising generating a session key based on a random number [col.11, lines 46-50] privately maintained by only the owner, including the encryptor [col.9, lines 51-52], of the original document [col.5, lines 2-4 and col.7, lines 10-11], encrypting the original document with the session key to create an encrypted document [col.5, lines 21-22 and col.7, lines 12-13], generating a proxy key based on a

Art Unit: 2135

public key **[col.10, lines 26-28 and col.11, line 11]** corresponding to the selected recipient, and **[col.11, lines 65-67 and col.14, lines 35-36]**

However, Wright did not include the Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme.

The Irish Times disclosed in its article "Encryption Technology to Thwart Computer Hackers System Should Protect Security of E-Commerce" a Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme **[paragraph 4]** where this encryption was developed by mathematicians from IBM and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology to have created an unbreakable protection for computer data **[paragraph 2]**. Cramer-Shoup method thwarts attacks of decoding encrypted messages passing through the network with bogus messages by adding another series of calculations which ensure the server leaks no information when responding to the bogus text **[paragraph 6]**.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Wright & Ellison with Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme as taught by The Irish Times because this method thwarts attacks of decoding encrypted messages passing through the network with bogus messages by adding another series of calculations which ensure the server leaks no information when responding to the bogus text.

Art Unit: 2135

**As per claim 21:**

Wright disclose a method for encrypting an original document for distribution to a selected recipient chosen from a plurality of possible recipients comprising generating a session key based on a random number **[col.11, lines 46-50]** privately maintained by only the owner, including the encryptor **[col.9, lines 51-52]**, of the original document **[col.5, lines 2-4 and col.7, lines 10-11]**, encrypting the original document with the session key to create an encrypted document **[col.5, lines 21-22 and col.7, lines 12-13]**, generating a proxy key based on a public key **[col.10, lines 26-28 and col.11, line 11]** corresponding to the selected recipient, and **[col.11, lines 65-67 and col.14, lines 35-36]** However, Wright did not include the Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme.

The Irish Times disclosed in its article "Encryption Technology to Thwart Computer Hackers System Should Protect Security of E-Commerce" a Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme **[paragraph 4]** where this encryption was developed by mathematicians from IBM and Swiss Federal Institute of Technology to have created an unbreakable protection for computer data **[paragraph 2]**. Cramer-Shoup method thwarts attacks of decoding encrypted messages passing through the network with bogus messages by adding another series of calculations, which ensure the server, leaks no information when responding to the bogus text **[paragraph 6]**.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for a person of ordinary skills in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Wright & Ellison with Cramer-Shoup encryption scheme as taught by The Irish Times because this method thwarts attacks of decoding encrypted messages passing through the network with bogus messages by adding another series of calculations which ensure the server leaks no information when responding to the bogus text.

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LEYNNA T. HA whose telephone number is (571) 272-3851. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday (7:00 - 5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2135

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Lha



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